

charge of the three plates of Arthropod forms, the latter of the single plate of Annelida and Entozoa. The classification adopted calls for little remark, although we cannot but regret that some slight confusion seems to have crept into Mr. White's arrangements. Thus in the first plate we have the order Thysanura introduced—perhaps justly, on account of its close alliance with the Myriapoda; but we do not know why the Myriapoda should be designated an Order if separated from the true Insects; nor can we justify the establishment of the separate orders Arachnida, Acaridæ, and Pycnogonida, with no indication of the class to which they may be referred. Under the class Crustacea we find the ordinary subdivisions; but even here the group of Malacostraca is denominated a subclass, whilst its equivalents the Entomostraca and Cirripedia are called divisions. These may be slight objections; but to beginners, for whose use these plates are intended, they will be sufficiently puzzling. The plate of Worms, illustrating its subject far less completely, is open to no objections of this kind. We notice, however, that *Pentastoma (Linguatula)* is placed here amongst the Entozoa, although its true place appears to be with the Mites, and that Dr. Baird still retains a family of Cysticeridæ in spite of recent researches.

The subjects have been selected with great judgment. They are for the most part, if not entirely, copied from well-known works, and the plates have been well engraved by Mr. Lowry. As companion illustrations to popular works on Natural History they will prove of great service, and we think would be rendered still more valuable to the young naturalist by the addition of two or three pages of letter-press containing a real "Tabular View" of the classes illustrated.

PROCEEDINGS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

March 26, 1861.—Dr. J. E. Gray, V.P., in the Chair.

ON THE OPHIDIANS OF THE PROVINCE OF BAHIA, BRAZIL.

By DR. OTHO WUCHERER, CORR. MEMB.

In the present paper I propose to give a list of the Snakes of the province of Bahia which I have been able to collect during the last two years, enumerating them in the order in which they occur in the Catalogues of the British Museum, and adding such remarks as I may be enabled to make.

Of the family of *Crotalidæ* I have seen:—

1. *Craspedocephalus atrox*.
2. *C. bilineatus*.
3. *Lachesis mutus*.
4. *Crotalus horridus*.

Of these the first seems to be the most common, particularly in some districts. To judge by what I have heard of the danger of its frequent bite, and what is commonly stated concerning the number of victims of the *Fer de lance* in the West Indies, *C. atrox* is a much

less dangerous animal than *C. lanceolatus*. The frequent occurrence of the bite of *C. atrox* is easily accounted for, as it is commonly met coiled up in the middle of footpaths, and is not easily disturbed unless trod upon. Neither *C. lanceolatus* nor *C. brasiliensis* have as yet been observed by me. Of the scarce *C. bilineatus* I have only seen two specimens; but I hear that six specimens have been found together in the colony Leopoldina, near Ilheos. I shall refrain from making any further remarks on this genus until I shall have collected more specimens for comparison than I at present possess. All my specimens of *C. atrox* differ from those described by herpetologists in having fewer longitudinal series of scales (23–25).

Lachesis mutus is far from being scarce. The largest specimen I have seen measured 10 feet.

Crotalus horridus is chiefly an inhabitant of the interior of the province, but is not very scarce on a row of hills which extends through the city of Bahia. In some parts of the province (for instance in Ilheos) it has, according to trustworthy testimony, never been seen.

Of the family *Viperidæ*, the only species, according to Dr. Gray, which is found in the Western World is Peruvian.

Of the numerous freshwater species of the family of *Hydridæ* few representatives seem to occur in the Brazils, *Helicops angulatus* being perhaps the most common species in this province. A second species, *Helicops Leprieurii*, Dum. et Bibr., still appears to be scarce in the collections. Perhaps a description taken from fresh specimens may facilitate its identification.

Diagnosis.—Head ovate, short; three frontals, anterior trigonal, between the nasals; labials entire; superciliaries large, almost of the length of the vertical; vertical elongate; loreal distinct; one or two anterior and two posterior oculars; occipitals elongate; body fusiform; scales in nineteen rows, truncated, polished, smooth, those of the middle and hinder part of the back and of the tail keeled; tail distinct, tapering.

Description.—Head ovate, flat on the vertex, not very distinct; cleft of mouth moderate; eyes superior, moderate, pupil round; three frontals, anterior small and almost triangular (irregularly quadrangular, with an obtuse posterior angle); nostrils superior, between two nasals; vertical moderate, elongate, with the lateral edges parallel or slightly divergent posteriorly, rectangular behind; occipitals large, elongate; eight upper labials, entire, the seventh much larger than the rest, fourth and fifth reaching to the eye, rostral broader than high, its upper angle very obtuse; series of teeth of moderate length, posterior tooth longest, grooved, anterior all equal; body fusiform; tail distinct, rather short, tapering; scales moderate, truncated behind, polished, in nineteen rows, those of anterior part and of sides of body smooth, of posterior part and of tail keeled; no scales of the middle line in any part larger; ventral shields narrow; anal divided; subcaudals in two rows.

Above olive, with three darker longitudinal streaks, or rows of spots sometimes confluent, alternating in the different rows; inferior

half of upper labials and body beneath yellowish; belly and tail beneath with transverse black streaks, some of which do not reach across (chequered as in *Liophis*).

Length of cleft of mouth $\frac{5}{8}$ inch, breadth of head $\frac{5}{8}$ inch; length of tail $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches; total length 22 inches.

The specimen described is in the collection of the British Museum.

This Snake is not very rare in the moist valleys in and about the city of Bahia.

Of the family *Boidæ* some of the most formidable members occur here, as in other parts of Brazil.

1. *Epicrates cenchria*,

2. *Xiphosoma caninum*,

3. *Boa constrictor*, and

4. *Eunectes murinus* have been noticed by me. The most common species in Bahia appears to be *Eunectes murinus*. It is the "*Sucurujaba*" of the natives, and is very frequently seen in close proximity to the town of Bahia, but very large specimens are here but seldom found. On the borders of the S. Francisco river they attain an enormous size. I should rather think that it must have been this snake, and not the *Boa constrictor*, which Dr. Gardner in his 'Travels in Brazil' mentions as having swallowed a horse. The *Boa* does not grow so large by far. *Eunectes murinus* seems to possess an extraordinary capability of fasting: a friend of mine kept the largest specimen I ever saw in close confinement for three years; and it was never known to swallow anything during this whole period. It died much emaciated.

The first species of the family of *Calamariidæ* which I have met with is new, and I conclude this first part of the paper with a description of it:—

GEOPHIS GÜNTHERI.

Diagnosis.—Upper labials seven, the third and fourth coming into the orbit; a single pair of chin-shields. Dirty-orange, with a longitudinal jet-black band from the occiput to the end of the tail.

Description.—Total length $12\frac{3}{4}$ inches; length of tail $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch; head indistinct, depressed. Body almost cylindrical; tail cylindrical, tapering. Cleft of mouth short; eyes moderate. Rostral shield broad, just reaching the surface of the head; two pairs of frontals, the anterior pair in direct contact with the rostral; the posterior frontals reaching the orbits; vertical almost regularly triangular; superciliaries moderate, occipitals rather large and elongate, slightly forked behind. Nasal pierced by the nostril. Loreal none. Anterior ocular elongate, not touching the supraorbital. Two posterior oculars sometimes confluent into one. Seven upper labials, the third and fourth reaching the orbit, the sixth and seventh largest; two temporals on the side of the occipital, the anterior one touching both posterior oculars. Series of maxillary teeth short, the hinder longest, not grooved. Ground-colour dirty orange; crown blackish. From the occiput to the tip of the tail a longitudinal jet-black streak with sharply defined edges, forked just behind the occiput into two

diverging extremities, which cover the edge of the occipitals ; tips of light-coloured scales black. On the sides of the body some irregular black spots, which, on the posterior part of the body, form an uninterrupted narrow line.

The specimen described was sent to me from Caunavieras, which is to the south of the city of Bahia. It is now in the British Museum. According to information received from Dr. Albert Günther, this is a new species, belonging to the genus *Geophis* of Wagler. I propose to name it after him, in acknowledgment of his unremitting kindness in aiding my endeavours to become acquainted with the Brazilian Ophidians.

Bahia, February 11th, 1861.

CHARACTERS OF SOME NEW SPECIES OF AMERICAN PASSERES.

BY PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER, M.A., Ph.D., SECRETARY TO THE SOCIETY.

1. POLIOPTILA BUFFONI.

Figuier à tête noire de Cayenne, Buff. Pl. Enl. 704.—*Motacilla cærulea*, Gm.—*Polioptila leucogastra*, Sclater, P. Z. S. 1855, p. 12 (*partim*).

Plumbea, subtus alba : pileo toto, alis et cauda nigris : tectricum alarum majorum marginibus externis, secundariorum pogoniis externis, caudæ rectricibus duabus extimis et tertia ex majore parte albis : rostro et pedibus nigris, illius tomis pallidioribus.

Long. tota 4·0, alæ 1·9, caudæ 1·8, rostri a rictu 0·6 poll. et dec.

Hab. In Guiana et Nova Granada int.

Mus. P. L. S.

Obs. Similis *P. leucogastræ* ex Brasilia, sed minor, et rostro longiore, rectrice extima omnino alba, et harum secunda et tertia fere usque ad basin albis dignoscenda.

2. TROGLODYTES HYPAËDON.

“*Troglodytes aëdon?*,” Sclater, P. Z. S. 1859, pp. 363, 372 ; Sclater et Salv. Ibis, 1859, p. 9.

Similis *T. aëdoni* ex America boreali, sed colore corporis subtus omnino brunnescenti-rufus ; lateribus corporis saturatoribus, rufis, neque transfasciatis : crisso nigro transvittato.

Hab. In Mexico meridionali et Guatemala.

Mus. P. L. S.

This Wren, which I have heretofore not separated from *T. aëdon*, is certainly as distinct from that bird as *T. Parkmanni* and other recognized species. It is in fact more nearly allied to *T. furvus* of South America than to the northern form ; but differs also from the *T. furvus* in the deeper colouring of the under surface, the throat and belly of the latter species being medially of a nearly pure white.

3. BASILEUTERUS UROPYGIALIS.

Olivaceus, capite cinerascete : superciliis, oculorum ciliis et cor-

pore subtus pallide cervinis, ventre albescente : uropygio et caudæ dimidio basali pallide fulvis, hujus apice cinerascens olivaceo : rostro nigro, pedibus pallide carneis.

Long. tota 4·5, alæ 2·7, caudæ 1·8.

Hab. In Brasilia.

Mus. P. L. S.

I have one specimen of this bird in my collection, received from M. Verreaux and marked "Brazil." It is most nearly allied to *B. semicervinus*, mihi (P. Z. S. 1860, p. 84), from Ecuador; but the uropygium and body beneath are much more lightly coloured; and the back is olive and head cinereous, almost as in *B. stragulatus*, with which it also nearly agrees in the coloration of the lower surface.

4. HYLOPHILUS INSULARIS.

Supra olivaceus, pileo et dorso superiore ochraceo-brunnescentibus, dorso inferiore, alis extus et cauda viridescentibus : fronte, oculorum ambitu et corpore subtus pallide ochraceis, tibiis et crisso virescentibus : tectricibus subalaribus pallide citrinis : rostro corneo, subtus pallidiore, pedibus carneis.

Long. tota 4·7, alæ 2·5, caudæ 1·9, tarsi 0·7, rostri a rictu 0·6.

Hab. In ins. Tobago.

I have a single specimen of this *Hylophilus*, presented to me by Sir William Jardine, by whom it was received from Mr. Kirk, amongst other birds collected in Tobago. It appears to belong to a well-marked though hitherto unnoticed species of this little group,—the bill nearly agreeing with that of *H. thoracicus*, though stronger and rather more arched, and the feet being likewise rather large and strong. The first primary is rather longer than in any other species of the genus that I am acquainted with, measuring 1·6 (in.) from the base of the wing to its extremity. In *H. thoracicus*, however, it is perhaps quite as long proportionately, the wing of *H. insularis* being generally larger than that of the former species. In its dull-olive dress, brownish head, and pale buffy colour beneath, this bird is readily distinguishable from other members of the group.

5. CHLOROPHANES GUATEMALENSIS.

Chlorophanes atricapilla, Sclat. & Salv. Ibis, 1859, p. 14, et 1860, p. 32.

Similis *C. atricapillo* ex America merid., sed differt colore corporis clariore viridi, capitis nigro nucham totam occupante, et rostro magis crasso et elongato.

Hab. In Guatemala.

The differences between this and the southern bird appear to be so constant, although so small in amount, as to render a distinct name necessary; and I have therefore chosen one which indicates the locality of the bird.

6. CHLOROPHONIA FLAVIROSTRIS.

Pittaceo-viridis, remigibus alarum et rectricibus intus nigricantibus, illarum pogoniis externis cærulescenti-viridibus : subtus

paulo dilutior, ventre medio et crisso flavis: rostro et pedibus flavis.

Long. tota 4.0, alæ 2.3, caudæ 1.2.

Hab. In rep. Æquator. *Mus.* P. L. S.

I have a single example of this *Chlorophonia* in my collection, received by Mr. Gould with other birds from Ecuador, from the eastern slope of the Andes, I believe. It appears to be the female of some undescribed species of this group. It may be readily distinguished from other species by its yellow bill and pale-yellow feet, and from *C. longipennis*, *C. frontalis*, and *C. viridis*, which are probably its nearest allies, by the absence of the blue round the eye.

7. EUPHONIA VITTATA.

Nigro-cæruleo-nitens: vitta frontali angusta fulvo-flavida: abdomine saturate fulvo-flavo, lateribus flavicantibus, tectricibus subalaribus albis, citrino tinctis: rectrice una utrinque extima in pogonio interno albo notata: rostro et pedibus nigris.

Long. tota 4.2, alæ 2.4, caudæ 1.4.

Hab. In Brasilia.

Obs. Affinis *E. xanthogastræ*, sed fronte angusto aurescente, et cervice nigra in ventrem magis producta facile dignoscenda.

I have only a single specimen of this very distinct species of *Euphonia*, which, from its make, is evidently a Brazilian skin. I received it from M. Verreaux of Paris.

8. TANAGRA SUBCINEREA.

Flavicanti-olivacea, alis caudaque nigricantibus eodem colore limbatis; pileo cæruleo, margine postico ad nucham viridescente; lateribus capitis et loris nigris: subtus pure cinerea, subalaribus pallide flavis; crisso fulvescenti-flavo: rostro nigro, mandibulo inferiore plumbescente; pedibus carneis.

Long. tota 6.75, alæ 3.2, caudæ 2.9.

Hab. In Venezuela et ins. S. Trinitatis.

This Tanager is a climatic form of *Tanagra cyanocephala* of Trans-andean Peru and Ecuador, and *T. auricrissa* of New Granada. It most closely resembles the former bird, but may be distinguished by the paler ashy colour of the lower surface, the duller yellowish-green of the crissum, and the less extent of the yellow on the under parts of the wings. The wings are also comparatively shorter, and there is less olivaceous colouring on the flanks of the Venezuelan bird. In the New Granadian *T. auricrissa* the under surface is tinged with blue, and the crissum is golden-yellow.

9. RAMPHOCELUS EPHIPPIALIS.

♂. *Coccineus: alis et cauda cum tibiis et subalaribus nigris: interscapulii totius plumis nigris obscuriore coccineo terminatis: rostro et pedibus nigris, illius mandibula inferiore ad basin alba.*

♀. *Similis R. brasiliæ et R. dorsalis fœminis.*

Long. tota 7.5, alæ 3.1, caudæ 3.1.

Hab. In ripis fl. Amazonum sup.

This *Ramphocelus*, of which I have specimens of both sexes, re-

ceived by M. Verreaux from the Upper Amazon, is only distinguished from *R. brasilius* by its back between the wings being black, with the margins of the feathers only scarlet. In this respect it is further removed from *R. brasilius* than *R. dorsalis*, which is exactly intermediate between the two. M. Jules Verreaux informs me that all the specimens received from this locality were similarly marked; so that the variation, though small, seems to be constant.

10. *SALTATOR ISTHMICUS*.

Olivaceus, uropygio grisescente; alis fusco-nigris, extus olivaceo limbatis: cauda fusco-grisescente, rectricum apicibus albicantibus: subtus sordide albus olivaceo flammulatus, gula immaculata et cum ventre imo et crisso albicantibus: tectricibus subalaribus fulvescenti-albis, campterio flavido: rostro nigro, pedibus corylinis.

Long. tota 7·0, alæ 3·5, caudæ 3·6.

Hab. In Isthmo Panama.

I have two specimens of this *Saltator* in my collection. I obtained them from Mr. John Bell, of New York, in 1856, who informed me that he shot them on his passage across the Isthmus of Panama on his return from California. The species is very closely allied to two others in my collection,—one from Trinidad, which I take to be the *Saltator maculipectus*; and the other from Bogota, which I consider to be probably *S. striatipectus* of Lafresnaye. The three species, however, are so closely allied, that it is possible that one of M. de Lafresnaye's descriptions may be intended for the present bird.

The *Saltator isthmicus* may be distinguished from the Trinidad bird by the less-pure white on the throat and belly, the more-regular flammulations of the lower surface, and its uniform black bill. The Bogotan (*S. striatipectus*) is much darker on the breast and head, and has much less olivaceous in its coloration. The point of the bill is, likewise, pale in the latter bird.

ON THE AFFINITIES OF BALÆNICEPS.

By A. D. BARTLETT.

On appearing before you this evening with new evidence of the affinities of this bird, and in endeavouring to aid in settling a subject so long disputed and frequently discussed, I beg to refer, first, to the elaborate and carefully written paper by Mr. Parker, in which this bird, after the most careful examination and comparison of its bones, is considered to be an *Ardeine*.

I have, then, to observe that, from an entirely different course of examination, and by the consideration of its other structures, I have arrived at the same conclusion; and I hope, with the assistance of my friend Mr. Stewart, to prove to the satisfaction of our ornithological friends, that there is no longer any doubt in the matter.

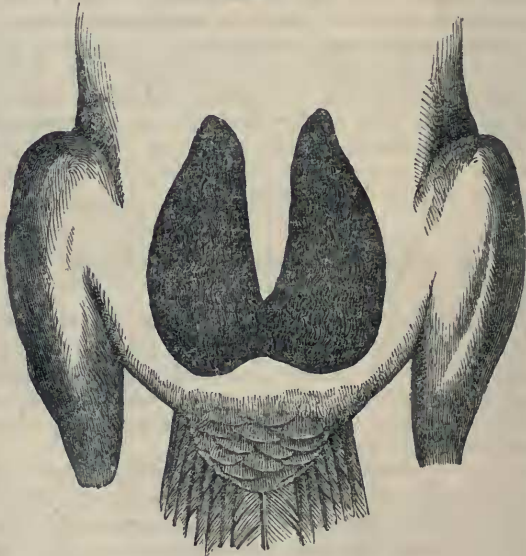
The death of the survivor of the two birds brought home by Mr. Consul Petherick has afforded me the opportunity of making a more accurate examination of its structure; and this has led me to

the discovery of two remarkable powder-down patches which, it will be remembered, I stated on a former occasion * I had failed to find in the living bird.

Upon removing the skin from the body of this bird, I was so struck by its close resemblance to the Herons, that I immediately killed a Heron and removed its skin also, in order to form a fair opinion by a close comparison of all the parts of these two birds. The exact form of the body and limbs was most remarkable; the structure of the hind toes (upon which so much stress has been laid) was alike, these turning backwards, forwards, or sideways in both species. The head and neck, however, of *Balæniceps*, when compared with the same parts of the Common Heron, present some very considerable differences. These differences consist, first, of the much larger head, and consequently stronger neck, in *Balæniceps* as compared with the Heron. Doubtless these modifications have reference to the food and the mode of obtaining that food. Many illustrations can be found of similar modifications; I may refer to one in the group under consideration, which results from the comparison of *Canceroma* with *Eurypyga*, and which presents, perhaps, the most extreme modification in the form of the bill in two birds of the same family.

As far as I was able to examine the viscera of the *Balæniceps*, I could discover nothing that would lead me to doubt its Ardeine

Fig. 1.



affinities; the stomach, liver, intestines, &c., of the two birds appeared exactly to correspond in structure and arrangement.

* See 'Annals' for April 1861, p. 326.

Directing my attention to the skin of *Balæniceps*, I was surprised at finding on the lower part of the back, reaching from the end of the scapulars to the base of the tail, two large, well-defined powder-down patches. The drawing (fig. 1) represents these two patches *in situ* on the body of the bird stripped of its feathers. These remarkable patches are dark-coloured on the inside of the skin; and on the outside the down is of extreme thickness, and the quantity of white or grey powder very great. This powder, when examined under the microscope, appears excessively oily, and will not mix with water. It is greasy to the touch, and is evidently produced by the growth of the down. It appears, in fact, to be the quill-shafts of the down broken up; or perhaps the down roots secrete this powder, which is distributed over the entire plumage, rendering the feathers impervious to water, in the same way that the oil-glands effect this in other birds. In this bird, however, the oil-glands are extremely small, not larger than the oil-glands of a Sparrow.

With reference to these patches, it is my intention to point out in the birds that I consider allied to *Balæniceps* the existence of these patches of down; and I may remark that the attempt to arrange animals by such means is not new, as, for instance, in the case of the *Ruminants*, some of the genera are distinguished by peculiar patches of hair, which are said to be glandular, upon the legs, &c.; and, again, the *Viverridæ* are distinguished by the existence or otherwise of anal and other glands and pouches.

I therefore proceed to point out the species more or less allied to *Balæniceps* that exhibit these singular structures. In the New World form (*Canceroma*) this structure appears to be most fully

Fig. 2.

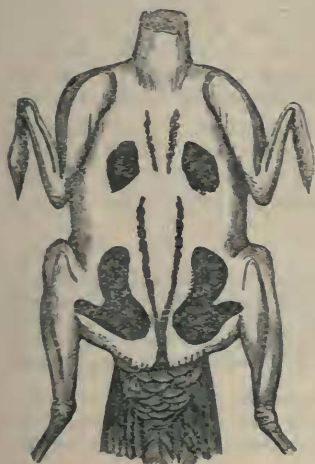


Fig. 3.



developed, this bird having four pairs of these powder-down patches, as shown in fig. 2, which represents the upper, and fig. 3, which

gives the lower surface of the body of this bird; while in the Old World form (*Balæniceps*) one pair only exist, as we have seen in fig. 1.

It is worthy of notice, that the true Herons, which inhabit both the Old and New World, and which have generally been regarded as the type of the group, have three pairs of these patches; the little and certainly aberrant form of Heron, *Eurypyga*, has only one pair of these down patches; while intermediate between this bird and the Herons come the Bitterns, in which two pairs of these patches exist*.

By these remarks one is naturally led to observe the often-noticed correspondence of forms in the Old and New World,—as, for instance, the Ostrich of Africa represented by the Rhea of America, the Camel of the Old World by the Llama of America, the Lion by the Puma, and many other similar representations.

In the work on 'Pterylographie,' published by Ch. L. Nitzsch, the author, who evidently has paid great attention to the subject, says that "these powder-down patches are found (but in a much smaller degree) in the genus *Tinamus*†, one or two Parrots, and also in some of the Birds of Prey." I have not, however, met with them in any group except the *Ardeæ* and their allies. I can assert most positively that no traces of these patches exist in the Pelicans, Storks, or Cranes. I have also taken considerable trouble with *Scopus*. This bird is considered by Prof. Reinhardt to be closely allied to *Balæniceps*. I cannot find anything to justify such a belief; the skins and skulls of the two birds are so entirely different, that it is useless to enter into any further details respecting them.

There is one thing, however, that I wish to remark, and I do so with considerable uneasiness lest I should be accused of casting a doubt upon the veracity of the gentleman to whom we are indebted for the first living specimens of this rare bird; and this consideration would have prevented my making the remark, had not my great desire been to call attention to the subject in the hope of obtaining a truthful explanation of what appears to me inexplicable. I refer to the statement, made by Mr. Petherick, that *Balæniceps* runs about in search of food immediately after it is hatched. If this be true, it is one of the most extraordinary facts I have yet met with.

* Having had many opportunities of studying the habits of the living examples of *Eurypyga* and *Botaurus*, I have observed a striking resemblance in these birds, particularly in the drooping and spreading out of the wings, in which position the beautiful markings upon every feather are finely displayed. I have so frequently seen this attitude assumed by both these birds, that I am satisfied it was not merely an accidental thing.

† Since writing the foregoing I have examined *Tinamus*. The structure referred to by Nitzsch appears to differ so widely from the down-patches of the Ardeine family, that I shall describe it in another paper upon this subject, which I hope to have ready shortly.

April 9, 1861.—Dr. J. E. Gray, F.R.S., V.P., in the Chair.

ON A NEW SPECIES OF THE FAMILY BOIDÆ.

By DR. ALBERT GÜNTHER.

PELOPHILUS FORDII.

Head rather narrow; neck slender; body thick, compressed; tail conical, tapering, prehensile. The anterior part of the head is covered with regular shields, symmetrically arranged; the posterior part from the orbits is scaly. There are four pairs of frontal shields, two small shields being intercalated between the posterior pair; then follows a large square vertical shield, the largest of all the shields of the head, situated between the superciliaries. The nasal opening is small, between three shields—namely between the two nasals and the anterior frontal. Three or four loreals, two anterior and five posterior oculars. Thirteen upper labials, the sixth, seventh, and eighth entering the orbit; none of them grooved. Pupil vertical, elliptical. Scales smooth, in twenty-eight series on the posterior part of the neck, and in thirty-three on the middle of the body. Ventral shields rather narrow, 253; anal 1; subcaudals entire 70.

The ground-colour is a reddish olive, more yellowish inferiorly; a reddish-brown streak from the nasal shield through the orbit to the angle of the mouth. A series of about eighty transverse reniform spots from the head to the end of the tail; each spot light reddish brown, edged with dark brown. Another series of similar but smaller and irregular spots along each side; belly nearly uniform.

Length of the head $\frac{2}{3}$ inch, of trunk 22 inches, of tail 4 inches.

This species comes from Western Africa, but I am not aware from what particular part. I have named it after Mr. Ford, whose merits in herpetology are well known by his truly artistical drawings.

ON A NEW SPECIES OF FISH OF THE GENUS GERRES.

By DR. A. GÜNTHER, FOR. MEMB.

GERRES LONGIROSTRIS, Rapp.

D. $\frac{9}{11}$. A. $\frac{3}{8}$.

The height of the body is one-half of the total length (without caudal). Præorbital and præoperculum not serrated. *Dorsal fin not notched*; the spines are moderately strong, the length of the second being four-sevenths of that of the head, or two-fifths of the depth of the body. The second and third anal spines are nearly of the same strength, and considerably shorter than those of the dorsal fin. Silvery, with darker stripes along the series of scales.

Hab. Cape of Good Hope.

This species is distinguished from all the others by the dorsal fin, which has the upper margin even, without any indication of a notch. It has been established by Professor W. von Rapp from specimens in the Museum of Tübingen.